

Date: 28th April 2016 at Edinburgh, UK
Attendance: SoLAR Members at AGM (approximately 85)
SoLAR Executive in attendance: Dragan Gasevic; Shane Dawson; Xavier Ochoa; Alyssa Wise; Phil Long; Stephanie Teasley; Simon Buckingham Shum; Leah Macfadyen; Abelardo Pardo; Hendrik Draschler; Drew Paulin; Srecko Joksimovic; Rebecca Ferguson and Grace Lynch

President called the meeting to order at 3:05pm.

1. President's Welcome (Dragan Gasevic):

- Again, another record breaking year with many conference attendees at their first LAK conference

2. Approval of Minutes from AGM 2015, 19 March 2015, Poughkeepsie, NY

- Moved by Phil Long and seconded by Phil Winne. Minutes approved as circulated.

3. President's report (Dragan Gasevic):

i. LAK16

- Thank you to organising host of LAK16 University of Edinburgh, in particular Moray House School of Education and School of Informatics, Rowena Arshad and Johanna Moore, Jeff Haywood, Sian Bayne, Srecko Joksimovic, Vitomir Kovanovic, Andy Prydre, Amy Woodgate, Anne-Marie Scott and Grace Lynch. Also the Programme Committee Shane Dawson, Hendrik Draschler and Carolyn Rose. Thank you to student helpers.
- Thank you to the Edinburgh First team - Louise Dryburgh and Cassie Mesouani

ii. Overview of SoLAR

- SoLAR was incorporated in 2012 and as of 2013 had approved its constitution and by-laws. The primary purpose of SoLAR is to advance the field of learning analytics in the technical, pedagogical and social domains including developing doctoral students.
- The major events for SoLAR includes this annual conference and the learning analytics summer institutes (LASI). The first LASI was 2013 at Stanford, followed in 2014 at Harvard. 2015 LASIs were a distributed model with many local regions hosted their own events. 2016 sees a central event coming back at the University of Michigan in late June. The largest regional event is the Australian or ALASI which typically sees 100 -150 participants in the Australian summer. Other events included LACE and the Southeast Educational Data Symposium.
- 2015 saw the first open nominations and elections for Executive Positions, online membership registration, website redevelopment, and incorporation in the US as well as deepening support for doctoral students.
- Benefits of individual membership include discounted registration fees, investment in the field, voting and governance, eligibility to participate in LASI's and student scholarships.
- Benefits of institutional membership include unlimited staff and student memberships, biannual trends update, invitational roundtable at LAK, investment in the field, voting and governance.

iii. Statement of financial position

For 2015 the closing balance was over \$105,000 CAD. The major transactions include membership and conference revenue, administrative expenses, Journal, student scholarships, website and communications, professional and legal fees. It is important to keep a balance at approximately this level in case there is a major catastrophe which would necessitate cancelling the conference to enable the Society to continue to operate and not declare bankruptcy.

4. 2016 Executive

i. Incoming 2016 Executive – Office bearers

- President - Dragan Gasevic
- President Elect - Stephanie Teasley
- Vice President - Phil Long
- Treasurer - Alyssa Wise
- Secretary - Caroline Haythornthwaite

ii. Members at Large:

- Xavier Ochoa - Events and SIGs
- Abelardo Pardo - Membership
- Srecko Joksimovic - Website
- Leah Macfadyen
- Drew Paulin
- Hendrik Draschler
- Rebecca Ferguson

iii. Retiring 2015 Executive Members:

- Shane Dawson
- Simon Buckingham Shum

5. Getting Involved

There are many opportunities to be involved with SoLAR and SoLAR events including special interest groups. Everyone is encouraged to offer suggestions and these will be formalised as they arise.

Journal - there has been a call for new Co-Editors of the Journal please consider being involved and working to continue to growth this important research vehicle.

Questions from the floor:

How can institutional collaboration be improved?

- SoLAR is creating SIGs and institutional contacts roundtable discussion opportunities

Happy with the increased female membership but, can we do better?

- SoLAR is recruiting new members to increase both from demographic and geographic spread

How can we support PhD students more?

- SoLAR already provides half price registrations for students, in addition to Doctoral Consortium Scholarships and has established new student scholarships in honour of Erik

6. Erik Duval Student Scholarships

SoLAR has established the Erik Duval Student Scholarships specifically to provide support for students attending LASI. Now the official meeting will draw to a close followed by a celebration of Erik's life - starting with a presentation from Xavier Ochoa.

The President officially called the meeting to a close at 4.10 pm.